(b) If so, the details thereof indicating the benefit likely to be derived as a result thereof;

(c) the number of applicants in the waiting list for securing passport at the Calicut Passport Office: and

(d) the time by which their applications are likely to be disposed of ?

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL) : (a) A proposal is under consideration.

(b) A comprehensive computerisation proposal presently under consideration entails not only the linking of Calicut through satellite, but the linking of all similar passport offices throughout India with the Ministry of External Affairs, New Delhi. This would also generate greater interconnectivity between all Passport Offices. Presently, each Passport Office checks each new application against its own records. Once an all-India data base is generated, each fresh application will be checked on an all-India basis, promptly without error and in a tamper proof manner. This is expected to greatly minimise misuse and enhance efficiency.

(c) As on 15.2.97, 21,175 applications were pending at Passport Office, Calicut. Of these, 9029 applications were pending for over one month.

(d) On an average, the Passport Office, Calicut issues Passports within 6 weeks of receipt of an application. Higher than normal pendency with the Calicut Office has been largely due to the detection of a substantial number of forged documents, submitted with applications.

[Translation]

Literacy Campaign in Madhya Pradesh

1504. SHRI SUSHIL CHANDRA : Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) the objectives of the literacy campaign alongwith the names of districts of Madhya Pradesh in which this campaign has started during the last two years including the estimated cost of this campaign and the total amount spent on it so far;

(b) whether any evaluation has been undertaken of the work done so far and if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether teachers of primary schools have been engaged to educate the adults resulting in disruption of studies of the school children;

(d) if so, the reasons therefor and the corrective steps taken in this regard; and

(e) the distribution of the expenditure being incurred on literacy campaign between Union and State Government and the time by which this campaign is likely to be concluded ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE DEPARTMENT OF EDUCATION IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRI MUHI RAM SAIKIA) : (a) The objective of the literacy campaign is to enable the learners to acquire functional literacy which means ability to :

(i) Read and write simple words and sentences;

(ii) Read and write simple letters and articles;

(iii) Compute simple problems involving addition, substraction, division and multiplication ; and

(iv) Increase awareness of National and important issues such as the environment., population, gender, health, sanitation etc.

A statement giving this names of Districts of Madhya Pradesh in which literacy campaigns have been launched in the last two years alongwith grants released to each District is enclosed.

(b) the campaigns are in different stages of implementation and external evaluation will be conducted by Social Sciences Institute of National repute at the end of the Total Literacy Campaign.

(c) and (d) Under the Total Literacy Campaigns volunteers are mobilised from all Sections of Society to undertake the teaching.

(e) the expenditure on literacy campaign is shared between the Union and State Government in the ratio of 4:1 in respect of Tribal areas and in the ratio of 2:1 in general areas. The campaigns are usually completed in 18 to 24 months.

Statement

Sl.No.	District Name	Grants released during last 2 years (Rs. in lakhs)
1.	Balaghat	77.53
2.	Betul	80.25
3.	Bhind	20.00
4.	Bilaspur	323.00
5.	Bhopal	40.00
6.	Bastar	302.73
7.	Damoh	50.53
8.	Guna	82.50
9.	Hoshangabad	67.45
10.	Jhabua	107.17
11.	Mandla	124.61
12.	Mansour	80.26
13.	Morena	50.00
14.	Raipur	140.00
15.	Raisen	92.06
16.	Rajnandgaon	60.00
17.	Rewa	66.25
18.	Sagar	64.43
19.	Sihore	68.05
20.	Seoni	30.00
21.	Shahdole	208.22
22.	Shivpuri	71.56
23.	Surguja	179.15
24.	Ujjain	20.00